

**IN THE CLAIMS**

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A seal assembly comprising:
  - a rotating portion comprising a running sleeve segment located generally parallel to an axis;
  - a fixed portion comprising a seal mounting segment;
  - a seal mounted to said seal mounting segment, said seal in contact with said running sleeve segment;
  - a slinger end on one of said rotating portion and said fixed portion, said slinger end extending radially outwardly beyond said seal, said slinger end extending in a direction having a component parallel to said axis, and a component perpendicular to said axis such that said slinger end extends at an angle relative to said axis; and
  - a slinger extension on the other of said rotating portion and said fixed portion, with said slinger extension also extending radially outwardly beyond said seal, said slinger extension also extending in a direction having a component parallel to said axis, and a component perpendicular to said axis such that said slinger extension extends at an angle relative to said axis, and one of said slinger extension and said slinger end being spaced axially in a direction along said axis such that said one of said slinger extension and said slinger end is spaced toward a forward position when the seal assembly is mounted on a vehicle, said forward position being defined by a direction of forward travel of the vehicle which will mount the seal assembly, of air flow, said one of said slinger extension and said slinger end extending radially outwardly beyond the other of said slinger extension and said slinger end.

- 2.-4. (Cancelled)

5. (Original) The seal assembly as recited in claim 1, wherein said rotating portion further comprises an upper seal segment in contact with said seal.

6.-13. (Cancelled)

14. (Previously Presented) The seal assembly as recited in claim 5, wherein said upper seal segment extends radially outwardly of a main seal body, and fingers extend radially inwardly of said main seal body, said fingers contacting said running sleeve segment.

15. (Previously Presented) The seal assembly as recited in claim 1, wherein said rotating portion has a radially outwardly extending portion connecting said running sleeve segment and one of said slinger end and said slinger extension, said radially outwardly extending portion for abutting a shoulder of a shaft that is to receive the seal assembly.

16. (Currently Amended) A driveline component comprising:

a shaft extending generally along an axis; and

a seal and slinger assembly including a rotating portion having a running sleeve segment located on said shaft and extending along said axis, a fixed portion having a seal mounting segment, and a seal mounted to said seal mounting segment, said seal being in contact with said running sleeve segment, and including a slinger end on one of said rotating portion and said fixed portion, said slinger end extending radially outwardly beyond said seal, said slinger end extending in a direction having a component parallel to said axis, and a component perpendicular to said axis such that said slinger end extends at an angle relative to said axis and including a slinger extension on the other of said rotating portion and said fixed portion, said slinger extension also extending radially outwardly beyond said seal, said slinger extension also extending in a direction having a component parallel to said axis, and a component perpendicular to said axis such that said slinger extension extends at an angle relative to said axis, and wherein one of said slinger extension and

said slinger end is spaced axially in a direction along said axis such that said one of said slinger extension and said slinger end is spaced toward a forward position when the driveline component is mounted on a vehicle, said forward position being defined by a direction of forward travel of the vehicle which will mount the seal and slinger assembly, of air flow, said one of said slinger extension and said slinger end extending radially outwardly of the other of said slinger extension and said slinger end.

17. (Previously Presented) The driveline component as recited in claim 16, wherein said rotating portion further comprises an upper seal segment in contact with said seal.

18. (Cancelled)

19. (Previously Presented) The driveline component as recited in claim 17, wherein said upper seal segment is generally parallel to said running sleeve segment.

20.-22. (Cancelled)

23. (Previously Presented) The driveline component as recited in claim 16, wherein the driveline component is a yoke.

24. (Previously Presented) The driveline component as recited in claim 16, wherein the driveline component has a radially outwardly extending shoulder extending radially outwardly of said shaft, and said rotating portion has a radially outwardly extending portion connecting said running sleeve segment and one of said slinger end and said slinger extension, said radially outwardly extending portion abutting said radially outwardly extending shoulder.

25. (New) The seal assembly as recited in claim 1, wherein said slinger extension extends radially outwardly beyond said slinger end, and the seal assembly is for a forward position in an axle housing.

26. (New) The seal assembly as recited in claim 1, wherein said slinger end extends outwardly of the slinger extension and said seal assembly is for a rear position in an axle housing.

27. (New) The seal assembly as recited in claim 1, wherein both said slinger end and said slinger extension extend radially outwardly of a location on a fixed housing that will receive said seal mounting segment when the seal assembly is mounted on the vehicle.

28. (New) An axle assembly comprising:

an axle housing;  
an axle to be driven by a drive input including a yoke for receiving a drive force, and rotating a shaft about a drive axis;

a seal assembly mounted between said axle housing and said yoke, said seal assembly including a rotating portion comprising a running sleeve segment located on said shaft and extending along said drive axis, and a fixed portion having a seal mounting segment, with a seal mounted to said seal mounting segment, said seal being in contact with said running sleeve segment, and a slinger end on one of said rotating portion and said fixed portion, said slinger end extending radially outwardly beyond said seal, said slinger end extending in a direction having a component parallel to said drive axis, and a component perpendicular to said drive axis such that said slinger end extends at an angle relative to said drive axis, and said slinger end extending radially outwardly beyond a portion of said axle housing that receives said fixed portion, and a slinger extension on the other of said rotating portion and said fixed portion, said slinger extension also extending radially outwardly beyond said seal, said slinger extension also extending in a direction having a component parallel to said drive axis, and a component

perpendicular to said drive axis such that said slinger extension extends at an angle relative to said drive axis, and wherein one of said slinger extension and said slinger end is spaced toward said yoke relative to the other of said slinger extension and said slinger end, with said one of said slinger extension and said slinger end extending radially outwardly beyond the other of said slinger extension and said slinger end.

29. (New) The axle assembly as set forth in claim 28, wherein a second seal assembly is mounted at a rearward portion of said axle housing, with a second shaft driving a second yoke, and a second seal assembly being mounted between said axle housing and said second yoke, said second seal assembly also including a rotating portion comprising a running sleeve segment located on said shaft and extending along a drive axis of said shaft, and a fixed portion having a seal mounting segment, with a seal mounted to said seal mounting segment, said seal being in contact with said running sleeve segment, and a slinger end on one of said rotating portion and said fixed portion, said slinger end extending radially outwardly beyond said seal, said slinger end extending in a direction having a component parallel to said drive axis, and a component perpendicular to said drive axis such that said slinger end extends at an angle relative to said drive axis, and said slinger end extending radially outwardly beyond a portion of said axle housing that receives said fixed portion, and a slinger extension on the other of said rotating portion and said fixed portion, said slinger extension also extending radially outwardly beyond said seal, said slinger extension also extending in a direction having a component parallel to said drive axis, and a component perpendicular to said drive axis such that said slinger extension extends at an angle relative to said drive axis, and wherein one of said slinger extension and said slinger end of said second seal assembly is spaced away from said second yoke relative to the other of said slinger extension and said slinger end, with said one of said slinger extension and said slinger end extending radially outwardly beyond the other of said slinger extension and said slinger end.